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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02734.0495

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Paul J. RUTHVEN et al.) Group Art Unit: 1731
)
Application No.: 10/036,770) Examiner: E. Hug
)
Filed: December 21, 2001)
)
For: AN APPARATUS AND METHOD)
FOR DEGRADING A WEB IN THE)
MACHINE DIRECTION WHILE)
PRESERVING CROSS-MACHINE)
DIRECTION STRENGTH)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

The document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application,

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and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication. A copy of the listed document is attached, as well as a copy of the European Search Report.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notation on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner apply the document as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

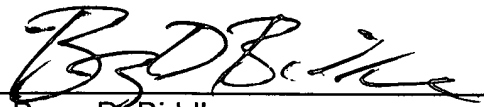
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should this document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 12, 2003

By: 
Barry D. Biddle
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011

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|-------------|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Patent No. | 02734.0495 | Appln. No. | 10/036,770 |
| Applicant | Paul J. RUTHVEN et al. | | |
| Filing Date | December 21, 2001 | Group: | 1731 |

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Issue Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date If Appropriate |
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| European Search Report dated August 8, 2003, for Application No. EP 02 25 8801 |
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|---|-----------------|
| Examiner | Date Considered |
| *Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | |
| Form PTO 1449 Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce | |